

To

New York Times

1-22-66

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Anti-Defamation League
New York, N. Y. 10016

EX-KLANSMAN FREED IN EXPLOSIVES THEFT

ANNISTON, Ala., Jan. 21 (AP)—A Federal court jury acquitted Kenneth L. Adams today of charges of receiving stolen Army explosives.

The all-white jury of 11 men and a woman deliberated about 11 hours in the case of the former Ku Klux Klansman.

Judge Clarence Allgood warned spectators that "we'll have no demonstrations in the courtroom" when he was handed the verdict preparatory to reading it aloud.

Mr. Adams, 45 years old, was charged with receiving explosives stolen last January from nearby Fort McClellan. The stolen items included TNT blocks, dynamite sticks, two white phosphorous hand-grenades, five simulator hand-grenades and three boxes of .50-caliber ammunition.

Mr. Adams is president of the Anniston chapter of the National States Rights party.

Standing in the courtroom when the verdict was read was James Willie Roberts, who had pleaded guilty to taking the explosives from the Army training base.

Judge Allgood told Roberts that he had intended to impose a stiff sentence but that in view of Mr. Adams's acquittal "I'm not going to put you in prison."

He put Roberts on five years' probation.